

Hirschon returned to public service and joined the Foreign Service.

Mr. Hirschon was quickly promoted up the ranks of Israel's Foreign Ministry, working for the Consul General's Office in the Persian Gulf countries before being named the Deputy Consul General of Israel to Florida and Puerto Rico in 2008. It has been an honor working side by side with Mr. Hirschon as Israel and the United States continue advancing our shared core values of freedom, equality, and democracy.

I congratulate Mr. Hirschon for this great honor tonight, and I look forward to many more years of strong partnership with Mr. Hirschon.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. XXXX, "TO DESIGNATE THE FACILITY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 14901 ADELFA DRIVE IN LA MIRADA, CALIFORNIA, AS THE 'WAYNE GRISHAM POST OFFICE'."

### HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. XXXX, the "To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14901 Adelfa Drive in La Mirada, California, as the 'Wayne Grisham Post Office'."

Mr. Wayne Grisham spent a significant portion of his life working for our country. He valiantly served our country as a fighter pilot during World War II and was held as a prisoner of war when his plane was shot down over Germany. Mr. Grisham was awarded the Purple Heart for his courageous service. After the war, an entrepreneurial spirit drove Mr. Grisham to open his own realty business in La Mirada, which he maintained for much of his life.

His dedication to the local community was truly remarkable. Mr. Grisham proudly served the City of La Mirada for over two decades, beginning in 1970 when he was elected to the city council. He continued his service to the community with his election to Congress in 1978 and the California State Assembly in 1984. He also lent his talents to the Peace Corps, serving as Director in Kenya in 1983.

A resident of Long Beach and later La Mirada, and graduate of Whittier College, Wayne Grisham was a longtime leader in the local community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me to honor the service and memory and of this true civic leader.

### A TRIBUTE TO NORTH CAROLINA VETERANS PARK

### HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today not only to celebrate our nation's 235th birthday, but also to take note of another very special event taking place in the great state of

North Carolina. Today in Fayetteville, NC there will be a very special celebration for the dedication of the North Carolina Veterans Park.

Fayetteville, North Carolina has a rich history of supporting our troops and honoring those who choose to serve their country in such an admirable way. Across the state, our military institutions have led the way in protecting our country whether it be from Cherry Point Air Station to Charlotte Air National Guard from Camp Lejeune to U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Elizabeth City, from Fort Bragg and Pope Army Air Field to New River Air Station and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, from the Military Ocean Terminal at Sunny Point to the Oak Island and Wrightsville Beach Coast Guard Stations. North Carolina has opened its hearts and hands to support those who have made so many sacrifices for all of us.

Today's dedication of the Veterans Park is yet another way that North Carolina can show its appreciation to our men and women in uniform. Just as each generation has continued to protect our freedoms, this park exemplifies why North Carolina continues to hold the designation as the "Most Military Friendly State."

The NC Veterans Park will be a place of remembrance, and it further solidifies the commitment that North Carolina and its citizens have to the military and to all veterans. Today, our state affirms its gratitude for the men and women who have sacrificed in protecting the freedoms of this great nation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I would like to offer some words from General Douglas MacArthur, who understood the commitment of those who choose to serve and the honor that they bestow upon this great nation by doing so.

The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war. Therefore, let no man [be] entitled to the blessings of freedom unless he be vigilant in its preservation.

Veterans; the people of North Carolina dedicate this park in honor of your service. God Bless you all and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING PASTOR ROBERT E. SMITH, SR. AND MOTHER GILDA J. SMITH

### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pastor Robert E. Smith, Sr. and his wife, Mother Gilda J. Smith, as they retire from the White Cloud Empowerment Center Church of God in Christ after 45 years ministering to the people in White Cloud and Flint, Michigan.

Pastor Smith and his wife Gilda were married in 1960 after he completed a tour of duty in the United States Air Force. Gilda graduated from the Hurley Hospital School of Nursing the following year and Robert went to work at Delphi. During this time they sustained a lifetime of ministry, calling individuals to live in Christ Jesus. Their ministry has taken them throughout the country but the focus has been in the State of Michigan. Pastor Smith and Mother Gilda have walked the streets of sev-

eral communities giving prayer and encouragement to the people they meet. They have reached out to youth, the homeless, and the disaffected. As the pastor of the White Cloud Empowerment Center Church of God in Christ they have traveled every week from Flint to White Cloud to hold services and minister to the people of that community. In addition, Pastor Smith has served his jurisdiction as Assistant State Sunday School Superintendent, District Superintendent (on 3 occasions), State Sunday School Superintendent, Chairman of Auxiliaries-in-Ministry, and presently serves as Administrative Assistant to Bishop P.A. Brooks, Jurisdictional Prelate, who is also 1st Assistant presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ.

Their three sons are all ministers and they have five grandchildren. Retired from their jobs at Delphi and Hurley Medical Center, Pastor Smith and Mother Gilda continue to encourage and bring spiritual healing to their many "adopted children" throughout our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Pastor Robert E. Smith, Sr. and Mother Gilda Smith as they retire from ministry at the White Cloud Empowerment Center, Church of God in Christ and I pray they will find much joy as they enter this next phase of their lives.

HONORING SERGEANT CORNELIUS H. CHARLTON, "THE HERO OF HILL 543"

### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today before you in continued celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Korean war in honor of SGT Cornelius H. Charlton, the Hero of Hill 543. On Saturday, June 11, the Cornelius H. Charlton Memorial Society and the 369th Historical Society celebrate the bravery of Sergeant Charlton by unveiling an exhibition in his honor highlighting his historic exploits on Hill 543, a major battle during the Korean war.

SGT Cornelius H. Charlton is one of 87 African-American Medal of Honor recipients. He was born on July 24, 1929, in East Gulf, West Virginia to Van and Clara Charlton. In 1944, the family moved to the Bronx, New York. Cornelius attended James Monroe High School. After graduation he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1946. Initially assigned to an engineering group, Sergeant Charlton requested a transfer to an infantry unit and was placed in Company C of the 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. The 24th Infantry, nicknamed the "Buffalo Soldiers," was the United States Army's last, all-Black, segregated regiment to engage in combat. Sergeant Major Charlton volunteered for frontline duty for this rear-echelon outfit.

On June 2, 1951, near the village of Chipori, northeast of Seoul, Korea, Sergeant Charlton's platoon encountered heavy resistance while attempting to take Hill 543. Taking command after his platoon leader was wounded, he regrouped his men and led an assault against the hill. Wounded by a grenade, Sergeant Charlton refused medical attention and continued to lead the charge. He single